

LIST OF CHIROPTERA INHABITING THE KHASIA HILLS, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES.—By G. E. DOBSON, B. A., M. B., F. L. S.

To Major H. H. Godwin-Austen we chiefly owe our knowledge of the fauna of these little known hill tracts, and the following list has been almost altogether made out from his collections presented to the Indian Museum. Most of the species were new, or Himalayan forms, while one is a well known European bat.

FAM. RHINOLOPHIDÆ.

1. RHINOLOPHUS LUCTUS, Temm.

This species has never, so far as I know, been found in the plains. Indeed all the species of this genus appear to be fond of elevated lands far from human habitations. The genus *Rhinolophus* is the only genus of this large family represented in the colder latitudes, and both species of leaf-nosed bats found in England belong to it. The fur of all the species is remarkably long and dense, evidently in relation to the temperature they live in. In this respect they contrast remarkably with the species of the allied genus, *Phyllorhina*, which are almost confined to the plains and low hill ranges of the tropical and sub-tropical parts of the Eastern Hemisphere.

2. RH. YUNANENSIS.

Rh. Yunanensis, Dobson, J. A. S. B., 1872, p. 336.

? *Rh. larvatus*, Milne-Edwards (non Horsfield), Mammif. du Tibet, 1872, p. 248.

Milne-Edwards' species is most probably identical with this, which will probably be found generally distributed throughout the Himalayas and adjoining mountain ranges. A dried specimen in the Indian Museum from Tupai Mukh, collected during the Lushai expedition, belongs to this species.

3. PHYLLORHINA ARMIGERA, Hodgson.

This fine species, first discovered by Mr. Hodgson in Nipal, is almost the only hill-dweller among numerous and widely distributed species of the genus. It is alone surpassed in size by the African *Ph. Commersonii* (*Macronycteris gigas*, Gray), and is the largest Asiatic leaf-nosed bat yet discovered. It extends along the Himalaya into China, and has been found by Mr. Swinhoe at Amoy.

The Khasia Hills are a new locality for this species.

4. PH. LEPTOPHYLLA, n. sp.

Ears rather large, broad and triangular with subacute tips, the outer margin slightly concave beneath the tip. The upper transverse nose-leaf

small, upper edge simple, narrower than the horse-shoe portion, thin, the three vertical folds in front faintly discernible at base only: the horse-shoe with a small incision in the centre of its front free edge: frontal pore small, placed at some distance behind the transverse nose-leaf.

Wing-membranes from the tibia a short distance above the ankle; interfemoral membrane triangular, the extremity of the tail projecting. Fur and integuments dark throughout.

This species belongs to the same section* of the genus as *Ph. armigera* from which it is distinguished by its considerably smaller size; by the upper transverse nose-leaf being simple, not lobed above as in that species, and by the incised front edge of the horse-shoe which in *Ph. armigera* is invariably plain.

The specimen from which the above description is taken is an adult male preserved in alcohol, obtained in the Khasia Hills by Major H. H. Godwin-Austen and sent by him to the Indian Museum.

5. *PH. LARVATA*, Horsfield.

The Indian Museum possesses specimens of this species from the Khasia Hills collected by the late Lieut. Bourne. They differ remarkably in the colour of the fur from the Javanese and Burmese forms. Those from the Khasia Hills are usually very dark without the least reddish tinge; in one specimen, however, an old male with greatly enlarged glandular elevations between the eyes, the fur has a very distinct orange tinge throughout.

6. *PH. FULVA*, Gray.

This appears to be the most widely distributed species of the genus. It varies remarkably in the colour of the fur and size of the ears, and has consequently received nearly as many names as those of the different countries it inhabits.

FAM. *VESPERTILIONIDÆ*.

7. *VESPERUS PACHYOTIS*.

Vesperus pachyotis, Dobson, P. A. S. B., 1871, p. 211.

This remarkable species, readily distinguished by its peculiar fleshy ears, has not been recorded from any other locality. The original description was taken from two adult specimens, a male and female, preserved in alcohol in the Indian Museum.

8. *VESPERUGO (PIPISTRELLUS) IMBRICATUS*, Horsfield.

This is the commonest bat in India where it takes the place of the European Pipistrelle. Specimens vary much in size according to age and locality; the form of the teeth, especially of the incisors, is also very varia-

* *Gloionycteris*, Gray.

236 G. E. Dobson—*On the Chiroptera inhabiting the Khasia Hills*. [No. 4, ble, and consequently the species has received a great number of different names.

9. *VESPERUGO (PIPISTRELLUS) AUSTENIANUS*.

Pipistrellus Austenianus, Dobson, P. A. S. B., 1871, p. 213.

Major Godwin-Austen has lately sent another specimen of this species which is readily known by its broad straight tragus, and intensely black integuments and fur. *P. affinis*, Dobson, from Yunan, is very close to this species, but there are nine vertebræ in the tail compared with seven in *P. Austenianus*, the tragus is narrower, and the colour of the fur light brown.

10. *NYCTICEJUS ORNATUS*, Blyth.

This peculiarly marked bat is the nearest representative of the American genus *Atalapha* (= *Lasiurus*). It is common in the warm valleys about Darjeeling and Dr. J. Anderson found it in the Kakyan Hills, Yunan.

11. *BARBASTELLUS COMMUNIS*, Gray.

I can discover no difference between the specimen sent by Major Godwin-Austen and specimens of the common European Barbastelle. It appears to be common in the Himalayas. Specimens have been sent from Másuri by Captain Hutton, and from Simla by Moulvie Ataor Ruhman; those from Simla are preserved in the Indian Museum.

It may be confidently expected that the following species which are generally common in the surrounding countries will be found in the Khasia Hills, namely—*Pteropus medius*, Temm.; *Cynopterus marginatus*, Geoff.; *Cynonycteris amplexicaudata*, Geoff.; *Megaderma lyra*, Geoff.; *Rhinolophus affinis*, Horsf.; *Rh. Garoensis*, Dobson; *Phyllorhina diadema*, Geoff.; *Ph. speoris*, Schr.; *Taphozous saccolaimus*, Temm.; *T. melanopogon*, Temm.; *Vespertilio formosus*, Hodgson; *Kerivoula picta*, Pallas; *K. Hardwickii*, Gray; *Vesperugo annectens*, Dobson; *Vesperus (Tylonycteris) pachypus*, Temm.; *Nycticejus Temminckii*, Horsf.; *N. Tickelli*, Blyth; *Murina harpia*, Pallas; and *M. cyclotis*, Dobson.
